

Claim Listing and Amendments:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A tensioner for surgical tape, said tensioner comprising:

a tensioner body, said tensioner body having

attaching means whereby said tensioner can be attached to a point on a length of surgical tape; and

holding means whereby said tensioner can restrainably engage[[s]] a second point of said surgical tape; and [[.]]

wherein the attaching means and holding means are collinear.
2. (Original) The tensioner of claim 1, wherein said tensioner is formed of plastic.
3. (Currently Amended) The tensioner of claim 1, wherein said attaching means comprises an elongated slot through the said ~~unitary~~ tensioner body.
4. (Currently Amended) The tensioner of claim 1, wherein said holding means comprises a circular opening through said ~~unitary~~ tensioner body.
5. (Currently Amended) The tensioner of claim 1, wherein said holding means comprises an elongated slot through the said ~~unitary~~ tensioner body.

6. (Currently Amended) A tensioner for a surgical tape comprising a ~~unitary~~ tensioner body having a first opening and a second opening passing therethrough, wherein said first opening has a first section having size and shape such that a surgical tape of a given size can frictionally move through said first opening and a second section having a size and shape to restrainably engage the surgical tape of a given size, wherein said second opening has a size and shape to restrainably engage the surgical tape of a given size.
7. (Original) The tensioner of claim 6, wherein said tensioner is formed of plastic.
8. (Original) The tensioner of claim 6, wherein said first section of said first opening has a circular cross-section.
9. (Original) The tensioner of claim 6, wherein said second section of said first opening is an elongated slot.
10. (Original) The tensioner of claim 6, wherein said second opening is an elongated slot.
11. (Currently Amended) A method of clamping an elongated anatomical structure, such as a blood vessel, the method comprising the steps of:

attaching a tensioner, having a ~~unitary~~ body, to a length of surgical tape;
passing a portion of said surgical tape around the elongated body structure; and
securing said surgical tape in place by inserting a section of said surgical tape into a gripping portion of said tensioner.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said attaching step comprises securing a free end of said length of surgical tape in a slot in said tensioner.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said securing step comprises threading said length of surgical tape through an opening in said tensioner.